

JOURNAL BUILDING
46-48 Monument Circle
Indianapolis
Marion
Indiana

HABS No. IN-213

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PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Mid-Atlantic Region, National Park Service
Department of the Interior
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDING SURVEY

THE JOURNAL BUILDING
(Commercial Building)

HABS No. IN-213

Location: 46-48 Monument Circle: Northwest half of Lot 13.
City Square 55: Southwest quadrant of Monument Circle;
Indianapolis, Marion County, Indiana

Present Owner: City of Indianapolis.
Department of Metropolitan Development.
148 East Market Street: Indianapolis, Indiana

Significance: The Journal Building was built in 1897 and is the second oldest building on Monument Circle, the focal point of the city plan created in 1821. It is the only surviving nineteenth-century commercial building on the Circle, representing the transition of the Circle from a residential and church area into a commercial district. The Journal Building was built as the home of the Indianapolis Journal and as the offices of the Indianapolis Light and Power Company. It was originally built in two sections; mechanical (rear) and office (front). Only the exterior walls of the office section remain intact, albeit with alterations, as the interior has been rebuilt and remodeled a number of times. The mechanical section in the rear of the building, facing the north-south alley, Bird Street, was enlarged in 1923 with the addition of three stories. Much of the mechanical section's historic fabric dates from that time.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. Date of erection: The Journal Building was built in 1897.
2. Architects: Unknown at this time.
3. Original and subsequent owners: The Journal Building was built for its original owner's, Daniel W. Marmon and Charles C. Perry as the home of the Journal, a newspaper, and the Indianapolis Light and Power Company. Marmon and Perry purchased the site in 1891 and had the building constructed in 1897 on the site of a one-story house (Sanborn, Insurance Maps of Indianapolis, Indiana 1887, II:21; Deed Book #236, Marion County Recorder's Office). The Journal Building remained in the possession of the Marmon and Perry heirs until it was purchased by the City of Indianapolis on July 28, 1982.
4. Builder, contractor: Unknown
5. Original plans and construction: The four-story Journal Building facade is 58 feet high. The facade is slightly curved to follow the arc of the Circle. The Journal Building was originally constructed of brick walls with load-bearing iron columns. It was constructed in 1897 in two sections: a four-story office section facing Monument Circle; and a two-story mechanical section directly behind it, facing the alley, Bird Street. The two sections were connected only by a narrow, two-story connector. Except for this connector the buildings were separated by an open area approximately fifteen feet wide and from the north neighboring building (and property line) by a distance of approximately ten feet. The fireproof mechanical section housed the printing and stereotyping departments on the first floor, and mailing and typesetting departments on the second. The setback of the mechanical section probably aided in the flow of air and natural light (Sanborn, 1898, I:6).

A one-story addition filled the space along the north wall sometime between 1898 and 1913 with the mechanical section functioning as a warehouse (Sanborn, 1898 updated to 1913, I,6). In 1923 three stories were added to the mechanical section and the connector; a four-story stair tower, was added north of the connector. Two stories were added to the northern in-fill and one-story in-fills were added, flanking the

stair/connector (Sanborn, 1914 updated to 1954, I:37; John G. Longsdorf, Electrifying Indianapolis, Indianapolis: Indianapolis Power & Light Co., 1960, p.83).

6. Alterations and additions: Since its erection in 1897 the Journal Building has undergone a number of alterations. Sometime between 1898 and 1913 a one-story addition was added to the northside of the mechanical section abutting the neighboring building to the north.

In 1923 the mechanical section was enlarged again with three additional stories to the original two-story structure. At the same time one-story additions flanking the connector stairwell were constructed and two stories were added to the above mentioned northern addition. Evidence of these additions to the mechanical section are found on the rear facade facing the alley Bird Street.

The office section remained virtually unaltered until 1953, with the exception of the first floor remodeling in 1937. In 1953 a fire destroyed portions of the office section's interior. This fire resulted in the total reconstruction of the office section interior. Original floors and partitions were demolished leaving only the exterior wall shell. The completely new interior was completed in 1954. The interior floor structure rests on steel framing from this period as does the blank facade parapet, which replaced the original entablature. All interior surface finishes, partitions and details of the office section date from 1954. The present storefront of the office section dates from 1982.

B. Historical Context

1. Text: The Journal Building was constructed in 1897 on Monument Circle, the focal point of the city's 1821 plan, and it represents the evolution of Monument Circle from a church-studded residential area to an important element of the central business district. The building originally served as the home of the Indianapolis Journal newspaper and as the house of the Indianapolis Light and Power Company. After the Journal's demise in 1904, the utility company occupied the entire building and renamed it the "Edison Building". The power company moved from its offices to larger quarters in 1936, but operated a direct current substation here until 1955. Since the departure of the utility company the office section continued to actively

serve the business district with a multitude of tenants and uses. Only small portions of the mechanical sections were utilized after 1955.

The Journal Building has commercial significance as the former office building and distribution center for the Indianapolis Light and Power Company. This firm and its successor, Indianapolis Power and Light Company (IPALCO), have provided electric service for much of Indianapolis and for surrounding communities since the 1890s. "IPALCO's" payroll and purchases over the past 50 years have put millions of dollars into local circulation. Furthermore, the company has developed generating stations throughout the state of Indiana. This commercial enterprise and the Journal Building (by historic association) have affected Indianapolis' and Indiana's commerce and a significant part of the state's history.

Between 1870 and 1920, the development of American cities was largely the product of cities' interaction with the forces of industrialization. In this context, what has become known as the "corporate economy" was born and nourished in the industrial and commercial activity conducted in cities such as Indianapolis.¹ Few will dispute that the commercial growth of Indianapolis was closely tied to the development and distribution of electric power. Indianapolis was "electrified" by several companies, one of the earliest and most prominent being the Indianapolis Light and Power Company.

The Indianapolis Light and Power Company was organized in 1892 by a group of Indianapolis businessmen which included Daniel W. Marmon and Charles C. Perry. A previous Marmon and Perry partnership, the Marmon-Perry Light Company, supplied the first incandescent lighting service for Indianapolis in 1883.² Soon after the company was organized, the Indianapolis Light and Power Company built a new power plant at Kentucky Avenue and West Street rather than (as they had intended when they acquired the property) at the site owned by Marmon and Perry at 46-48 Monument Circle.³ However, at this Circle site, in the shadow of the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument then being constructed, the "Journal Building" was erected in 1897.⁴ The building was shared by the Indianapolis Light and Power Company (offices listed at 48 Monument Place) and the Indianapolis Journal newspaper (offices listed at 46 Monument Place).⁵ After the demise of the Journal in

1904 (see below), the building was utilized as an office building and substation by succeeding electric companies until 1936.⁶ Also, there was an electric appliance shop - one of the first in Indianapolis - on the ground floor of the building from 1918 to 1925.⁷ Thus, it is not surprising that the name of the building was changed to the "Edison Building" in the 1920s.⁸ Later the building was referred to as the "Canary Cottage Restaurant Building."⁹ Yet since the 1930s the building has been known to chroniclers and has been listed in city directories, as the Journal Building.

The Journal Building is a significant part of the commercial history of Indianapolis since it has served as the home office of a prominent Indiana company providing commercial electrical service to Indianapolis from 1897 to 1936.

The Journal Buildings's association with the Indianapolis Journal newspaper makes the building a significant part of the history of communications in Indianapolis and in the United States. Several prominent Indianapolis historic figures were associated with the Journal and frequented the newspaper's offices on the ground floor of the Journal Building at the turn of the century. As well, the changes which the Journal had undergone by the early 1900s were characteristic of the changing nature of journalism in urban/industrial America - i.e., the change from personal to corporate journalism.¹⁰

The Journal has been known as one of the pioneer newspapers in Indiana.¹¹ Beginning as a weekly known as The Western Censor and Emmigrant's Guide in 1823, the paper became the Indiana Journal in 1825. During the state legislative session of 1842, the Journal issued a daily paper, a practice which continued during succeeding legislative sessions until 1850. After that time, a daily issue of this tabloid became a permanent fixture of 19th-century Indianapolis. On April 25, 1853, the first Indianapolis Journal appeared with John D. Defrees as editor and proprietor.¹² Until it ceased publication in the summer of 1904, the Journal and several personalities associated with it were known nationally.

Most noteworthy among those associated with the Journal was renowned American poet and Hoosier popularizer, James Whitcomb Riley. Riley had moved from his hometown of Greenfield, Indiana to Indianapolis in 1879 to work for

the Journal.¹³ He took a desk with the newspaper, and as "Jay Whit" he became well known for verse and prose about things he observed in Indianapolis and the surrounding countryside. As his fame increased (prompting him to write under his own name), Riley spent most of his time writing books of poetry. Yet, at the turn of the century, Riley was still a part-time contributor to the Journal and was often seen at the Journal Building engaged in discussions with his friend and publisher, John C. New.¹⁴

Throughout the history of the Journal, the newspaper was a front runner of Indianapolis journalism. The first steam press in Indianapolis was erected at the Journal's¹⁵ Pennsylvania Street office - at the "McCarty Corner" - circa 1840. At that time, the newspaper reflected the personality and biases of owner/editor John Douglass, Indiana's first "State Printer,"¹⁶ whose main interest was giving his readers political propaganda rather than "news."

In 1872 the Journal Company owners improved the mechanical department and press facilities; they introduced a "Bullock perfecting press, the first brought to the state."¹⁷ By the 1890s the Journal had expanded its size and format, and news content relied extensively on the telegraphic wire stories.

Expansion of the Journal continued throughout the 1890s and in December 1897, the offices of the newspaper moved to the recently opened "new Journal Building" at 46-48 Monument Circle.¹⁸ This building joined others on the Circle comprising what became known as "Press Row," the central location of Indianapolis' newspapers at the turn of the century.¹⁹ In this new location, the Journal was described as "one of the most convenient and thoroughly equipped newspaper offices in the country."²⁰

Despite the Journal's successes and longevity in Indianapolis, it ceased publication at mid-year 1904. The newspaper was purchased by George McCulloch and absorbed into the Indianapolis Star, part of a statewide chain of "Star Papers."²¹

Many other uses filled the building in subsequent years. News personalities did not return to the Journal Building for nearly 35 years until the late 1930s. In 1937, WFBM Broadcasting Station, one of Indianapolis' first commercial radio stations moved into its new studios at 48 Monument Circle.²² WFBM remained in the Journal Building until 1951 when the station moved to 1330 North Meridian. Another communications interest, the Indianapolis Press Club, moved

into its new facilities in the Journal Building in 1938. The Press club was essentially a social club for newspaper and radio personalities of the area, and the facilities included a bar and lounge as well as banquet space for the Press Club when they honored area athletes or had formal parties. In 1953 a fire in the Journal Building drove the Press Club from its Circle home.²³ Reconstruction of the building's interior in 1954 led to continued use of the building until 1987.

The Journal Building's historical significance lies as a distribution center at the beginning of and into the twentieth century in Indianapolis. Distributing information through the Journal newspaper and distributing electrical power through the utility company. The historic fabric that remains of the Journal Building is evidence of Monument Circle's transformation from a residential and church area in the pre-Civil War period to that of being part of the central business district by the end of the nineteenth century. The Journal's Building's facade is the second oldest on Monument Circle, after that of Christ Church, thus making the Journal Building the oldest commercial building and the sole survivor of dozens of its contemporary late-19th-century commercial buildings. The structure has withstood intense pressures for real estate development which have existed at this site since the 1920s. Its facade incorporates period architectural form and details.

2. End Notes:

1 Maury Klein and Harvey A. Kantor, Prisoners of Progress: American Industrial Cities 1850-1920 (New York: Macmillan Publishing Co., 1976), pp. vii-xvii and 69.

2 John G. Longsdorf, Electrifying Indianapolis: A History of Indianapolis Power and Light and Its Predecessors (Indianapolis: Indianapolis Power and Light Co., 1960), pp. 14-16.

3 Ibid., p. 16.

4 "Index of Building Permits, 1897-1900," Microfilm Archives Division, City of Indianapolis, lists building permit #2538 issued to Marmon and Perry for 1897 in the amount of \$360.00 with a fee so \$18.00; such figures suggest this permit was issued for a commercial structure - the "Journal Building" -

when compared with the amounts (e.g., \$5.00, fee of \$0.75) for residential structures.)

5 R.L. Polk and Company, Indianapolis City Directory (Indianapolis: R.L. Polk & Company, 1989), p. 501.

6 Longsdorf, pp. 43 & 72-73.

7 This shop was referred by two different names: The Electric Dealers Association Electric Appliances (1918-1919) and the Indianapolis Light and Heat Company Electric Shop (1920-1924). See R.L. Polk and Company's Indianapolis City Directory for the years in question. Also, note that the Tuec company - dealing in vacuum cleaners - was listed at 46 Monument Place in 1915, 1919, and 1920 in Polk's Indianapolis City Directory; the same company is listed at 44 Monument Place in 1916 - 1918 directories.

8 Polk lists the building at 46-48 Monument Circle as the "Edison Building" for the first time in 1927; however, Ernestine B. Rose states in her book, The Circle: The Center of Indianapolis (Indianapolis: Crippin Printing Corporation, 1971), p.66: "The building is listed as the Journal Building in the City Directories until 1918 and then became known as the Edison Building."

9 Ed Savola, "Inside Indianapolis," Indianapolis Times, July 20, 1953, p. 11.

10 Klein & Kantor, p. 282.

11 Future Unlimited, The Indianapolis Story 1821-1953, (Indianapolis: The Indianapolis Star, 1953), p. 26.

12 B. R. Sulgrove, History of Indianapolis and Marion County, Indiana (Philadelphia: L. H. Everts & Co., 1884), pp. 239-240; Jacob Piatt Dunn, Greater Indianapolis: The History, the Industries, the Institutions, and the People of a City of Homes, (Chicago: The Lewis Publishing Company, 1910), I:388.

13 Marjie Gates Griffin, Water Runs Downhill: A History of the Indianapolis Water Company and Other Centenarians (Indianapolis: Benham Press, 1981), pp. 22-23. See also Jeanette Covert Nolans's discussion of Riley in Hoosier City (New York:1943).

- 14 Horace M. Coats, "Press Club to Open New Home Oct. 2," Indianapolis Star, September 26, 1937, pt.5 p. 8.
- 15 W. R. Holloway, Indianapolis; A Historical and Statistical Sketch of the Railroad City (Indianapolis: Indianapolis Journal Print., 1870), p. 157; Max R. Hyman (ed.), The Journal Handbook of Indianapolis (Indianapolis: Indianapolis Journal Corp., 1902), p. 236.
- 16 Douglass was elected "State Printer" when the Capital of Indiana was at Corydon. He came to Indianapolis when the capitol was moved in 1824, and with Douglass Maguire purchased the Western Censor and Emigrant's Guide. Douglass and Maguire changed the paper's name to the Indiana Journal. Douglass was connected with the Journal until 1843. See Sulgrove, pp. 235ff.
- 17 Dunn, I:411.
- 18 Annoucement of the Indianapolis Journal December 12, 1897, p. 14. Previously, the Journal offices and presses were in the "old Journal Building" on the northeast corner of Market Street and the Monument Circle.
- 19 Corbin Patrick, "History is Receding on the Old Circle," Indianapolis Star, August 11, 1965, p. 20. Referring to the southwest segment of the Circle, Patrick wrote: "That segment of the Circle was a regular Press Row in the early years of the century".
- 20 Hyman, p. 236.
- 21 Future Unlimited p. 26; Dunn, I:412-413.
- 22 Indianapolis Times, February 3, 1937, p. 19.
- 23 Indianapolis Times July 2, 1953, p. 1; Indianapolis News, August 9, 1937, pt. 2, p. 6; Indianapolis Star, August 12, 1937, p. 12; Indianapolis Star, September 26, 1937, pt. 5, p. 8.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement

1. Architectural Character: The Journal Building is a brick, commercial building with a limestone, Renaissance Revival facade. It was originally constructed in 1897 in two sections: office section facing Monument Circle; and mechanical section behind it along the alley Bird Street. Both sections have undergone physical changes including the additions and added floors of the mechanical section, all before 1923; and the total reconstruction of the office sections interior in 1954 and storefront remodeling in 1982.
2. Condition of fabric: The Journal Building is generally in fair condition despite the lack of maintenance since 1982.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. Overall dimensions: The Journal Building is located on a irregularly shaped lot and completely fills the lot with dimensions of 37 feet, 0 inches on the east (Monument Circle); 125 feet, 0 inches on the north; 78 feet, 2 inches on the west (Bird Street); and 168 feet, 2 inches on the South. The four-story office section is 58 feet high, the five-story mechanical section is 60 feet high. Only the four-story, office section has a basement.

2. Walls:

- a. East (Circle) elevation: The building's Circle facade has undergone numerous alterations at its ground-floor level; its present storefront is at least the fourth generation. At the second, third, and fourth floors, most of the original symmetrical design of the stone facade survives. The detailing borrows heavily from the Renaissance period. Above the fourth floor windows, nothing remains of the original, elaborately detailed entablature.

The 1982 storefront approximates the original configuration of the symmetrical storefront in its placement of the doors, the wide expanse of glass, and the low wood base. The original storefront featured a single pane of plate glass from the wood base up to the storefront cornice (which still survives), and a plate glass pivoting transom existed above a double-leaf

door. Currently wood panels are placed across the facade at the former transom level. The two surviving stone pilasters enframe the storefront. The cast-iron, storefront entablature retains its original brackets of foliar detail and recessed rectangular frieze panels. The brackets are placed so as to emphasize the division of the bays of the fenestration of the upper floors, with paired brackets at each pilaster.

The second floor of the main facade retains more of its original design elements than any other floor. A blind balustrade extends across the facade dividing the first floor from the second. A flagpole support structure currently obscures the acanthus-leaf ornament at its center. The six bays are divided in two units of three windows each by a center pilaster extending from the storefront cornice to the top of the third floor windows. These pilasters are repeated at each edge. All have a base of five courses of rusticated stone, a treatment which is repeated between the windows, accentuating the rectangular form. Keystones further enliven the design of this story.

The third floor of the main facade features stilted arch windows whose form has been somewhat disguised by the insertion of wooden panels above a new upper pane of rectangular form. Below each window there is a horizontal raised stone panel. Intricately carved garlands are placed in the spandrels of the arches. The keystone at each window serves as a bracket supporting the molded stringcourse above.

The six rectangular windows of the fourth floor sit on a molded, projecting sill that is denticulated at its base. Each unit of three windows is united by enframing moldings. Separating the two units is a decorative panel of delicately sculpted ornament framed by molding, characteristic of the Renaissance style. The center window of each unit formerly featured an entablature, integrated into the entablature ornamentation above. The consoles, as well as some of the bas-relief ornament directly above the windows survive.

Following the 1953 fire, the cornice and parapet were removed and the parapet was rebuilt in 1954 in brick and faced with a dressed limestone veneer above the fourth floor windows. A faint grid is created by the joints of these three courses of stone. The building now suffers from the loss of the original attic, denticulated cornice,

and open balustrade at parapet level, since the alteration is in stark contrast to the original design. The building's richest ornamentation occurred at the entablature of the facade as a counterbalance to the groundfloor.

- b. South elevation: The south wall of the Journal Building has been refinished as a plain, smooth, stuccoed brick-wall capped by tile coping. This wall originally was the party wall between the Journal Building and Hotel Brunswick. Projecting from the wall are three brick chimney flues which terminate at the parapet. Between the office and mechanical sections is a three-sided lightwell. Windows pierce the three walls of the lightwell beginning at the second floor level. The east wall of the lightwell has nine windows in three bays at the second through fourth floors. These windows above segmented arches stone sills, four-over-four lights in sheet-metal covered sash. The north and west walls of the light well have sixteen-light, steel-sash, industrial windows with pivoting center sashes. The second floor of the connector has no windows, but evidence of the bricked up segmented arched openings. The first floor of the lightwell is filled with the addition accessed with a circa 1975, double leaf steel service door. Only approximately ten feet of the mechanical section's brick, south elevation is exposed before it abuts the north wall of a neighboring building, the Indianapolis News Mechanical Building.
- c. North elevation: The north elevation wall abuts the nine-story Test Building and not visible.
- d. West elevation: The west elevation of the mechanical section faces the alley Bird Street. At the street level are three courses of rock-faced limestone ashlar foundation. All the original openings of the first floor have segmental-arches. Four of the windows have been bricked up with their steel-shutter hinges remaining. One opening is partially bricked up with a smaller window inserted. Other openings include the original, paneled and glazed, double-leaf wooden door whose sill is elevated, creating a dock; and original doorway, bricked up in the arch area accommodating two, recessed, flush, steel doors at grade level. The second story has five segmented arched openings with limestone sills and four-over-four lighted, wood, sash windows. The three upper floors have regularly spaced openings with steel-sash windows with industrial wire-glass lights. The parapet is capped with tile.

The northern portion, an addition, is only three stories in height with the only opening being a riveted, sheet-metal,

sliding door. This addition rests on a poured concrete foundation and has tile coping.

3. Foundations: Foundation walls exposed in the basement are limestone and brick. The foundation of the mechanical section is rock-faced, coursed limestone.
4. Structural system, framing: The building is divided into three distinct areas: office section on the east, mechanical section on the west, and a center connection. The building is primarily of steel frame construction with the exception of the basement columns and some parts of the connector. The east area is two bays wide and five bays deep. The west area is three bays wide and four to five bays deep. The floor slabs are a composite of concrete, clay tile, and steel reinforcing of approximately seven-inch thickness in both the east and west areas. The floor in the connector appears to be a standard four-inch concrete slab. The perimeter walls of brick and stone in the basement are loadbearing (Centre Venture, "Building Descriptions for Circle Centre Mall." Indianapolis, Indiana February 8, 1988. typewritten, unpublished).
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The two, renovated-first floor entrances off Monument Circle have single glazed wood frame doors. A steel service door is located on the south facade below the light well. Three doorways pierce the west facade: a sheet metal-covered sliding door, circa 1905; an original double-leaf, paneled wooden door; and a circa 1954 doorway with a recessed metal flush door.
 - b. Windows: All of the windows of the main facade are replacement wood sash, double-hung type. Windows on the south and east facades and in the light well are of the industrial metal sash, multi-paned type. Some windows facing the lightwell from the office section are wood sash. Steel industrial windows are located on the west facade as are wood-sash double hung windows.

Roofs:

- a. Shape, covering: The Journal Building's roofs are flat with built-up composition cladding below the brick parapets.

- b. Penthouses: Both the Journal Building's office section and its mechanical section have flat-roofed elevator penthouses. The mechanical section's roof is pierced by two roof hatches.

C. Description of Interior

1. Floor plans:

- a. The Journal Building's office section interior was completely reconstructed in 1954 in the aftermath of the 1953 fire. The 1914 Sanborn map updated to 1954 notes that the brick building was "Remodeled" and described as "Noncombustible".

The first floor of the Journal Building is open with a series of iron columns running down the center of the floor. The elevator and front stairwell near the Circle entrance are enclosed by a drywall partition as are office spaces. The middle stairwell connects the office section area and the mechanical section. Directly south of the stairwell is a separate section with painted brick walls and a one-story, in-fill addition in the lightwell. The mechanical room is open with two rows of steel channel columns. The rear entrance and rear stairwell are located in the southern-most corner and separated by a plastered stud wall.

The second floor of the office section is broken up into a myriad of rooms probably from the 1954 remodeling. The mechanical section has a series of small rooms and a corridor between the two rows of columns. The third floor of the office area has been divided into offices with concrete block and stud wall partitions. The mechanical section also has many office partitions with stud walls. The fourth floor of the office area is a large open space, broken only by a series of steel pipe columns. The mechanical section is divided by many partitions, also broken by steel pipe columns. The fifth floor of the mechanical area is divided into two areas.

- 2. Stairways and elevators: There are three stairs providing circulation in the building: the office section; the connector; and the mechanical section. All three are constructed of concrete filled steel pans with steel-pipe handrails. The enclosures around the office and connector stairs are concrete block. Around the mechanical stair is a 2" thick plaster wall. The office stair connects the

basement through the four floors. The connector stair connects the basement to the five floors above. A ladder on the fifth floor provides access to the roof. Single elevators are located adjacent to the office and the mechanical stairs and are enclosed in the same construction as those stairs. They also provide circulation to the same floors as those stairs (Centre Venture).

3. Floorings: All of the floors in both the office section and the mechanical section are concrete, some covered with wall-to-wall carpeting.
4. Wall and ceiling finishes: All of the walls and ceilings of the office section are covered with plaster from 1954, except for a first floor room below the light well, which has painted brick walls. The walls of the mechanical section are either painted brick or plastered. The plaster probably dates from 1923. Some partition walls appear to be a masonite-type material as are the ceilings. The fifth floor of the mechanical section has an exposed brick-tile block ceiling.
5. Openings:
 - a. Doorways and doors: The few doors of the office section date from the 1954 remodeling or later. Doors of the mechanical section are historical, paneled, wood doors, either original or from 1923. Sliding, metal fire doors are located in the middle stair-well area, between the office and mechanical sections.
 - b. Windows: Wood frame, double-hung windows are located on the main facade, dating from 1954. Original double-hung, wood sash windows are located on the second floor of the Bird Street facade. All other windows are the multipaned, industrial type with metal sash.

- D. Site: The Journal Building occupies the entire northwest half of Lot 13 of Square 55 facing Monument Circle. It is prominently sited on the southwest quadrant of the Circle, which defines the center of Indianapolis and the heart of the downtown area. Adjoining the building on the north is the Test Building, a nine-story office building/parking garage/commercial building constructed in 1924. To the south currently is the Circle Cafe', an open-air urban amenity used seasonally. For many years, this site to the south was a vacant lot following a fire in the late 1960s that destroyed the annex of Wasson's Department Store. When originally constructed the Journal Building shared party walls with the three-and-a-half-story Morrison

Building to the north and the four-story Plaza (formerly Hotel Brunswick) to the south. (A fragment of the Plaza's facade still adjoins the Journal Building.) Directly across the brick-paved Circle from the building is 1888-1901 Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, the centerpiece of the city, which was nearing completion at the time the Journal Building was constructed. The Journal Building's mechanical section is abutted to the south, along Bird Street, by the four-story Indianapolis News Mechanical Building of 1896 (and enlarged circa 1910.)

PART III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- A. Architectural drawings: A search of the local libraries and archives has not uncovered any original or remodeling drawings of the Journal Building.
- B. Old views: Because of its prominent location on Monument Circle, the Journal Building appeared in a number of historic photographs made by the Bass Photo Company of Indianapolis. A photo in the 1902, "The Journal Handbook of Indianapolis" has a photograph of the Journal Building taken within five years of the building's construction. The building is complete with its two storefronts and a full entablature with a tablet centered in the frieze bearing the legend "The Journal". A 1916 Bass Photo Company photograph (# 46961) of the southwest quadrant of the Circle shows the Journal Building unaltered except for the addition of electrical signage at every floor level for the Indianapolis Light and Heat Company. A 1922 photograph shows the building unchanged except for the addition of a transom-level sign spanning both bays advertising "Electric Fans" (Longsdorf, p.15). A 1929 photograph from the Indianapolis Power and Light Company's collection show the frieze tablet with the legend "EDISON BUILDING" with a roof-mounted electrical sign with the legend "Edison Service, Indianapolis Power and Light Company, Light Power." A Bass Photo (#279246-F) from March 10, 1951 shows the storefronts completely removed and replaced with a faux cottage facade. A Bass Photo (#292771-F) from June 7, 1956, depicts a remodeled building with an aluminum storefront and an entablature replaced with the current smooth ashlar panels. All of the above Bass Photos were found in the Bass Photo Collection of the Indiana Historical Society Library, Indianapolis.
- C. Bibliography
 - 1. Primary and unpublished sources:

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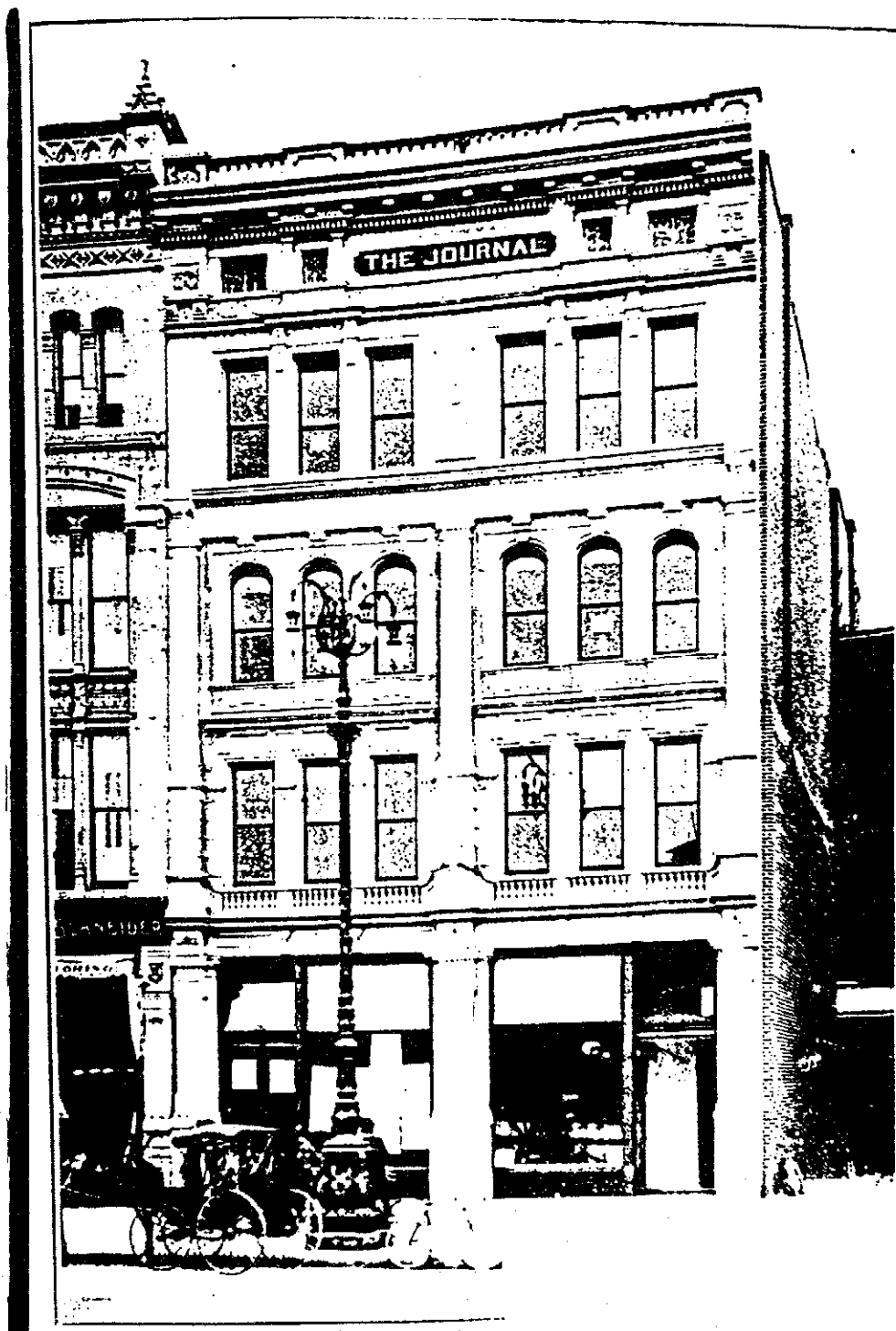
Sanborn-Perris Map Company. Insurance Maps of Indianapolis,
Indiana Vol. 3, New York: Sanborn-Perris Map Company, 1898
and updated to 1913.

Savola, Ed. "Inside Indianapolis," Indianapolis Times, 20 July,
1953, p. 11.

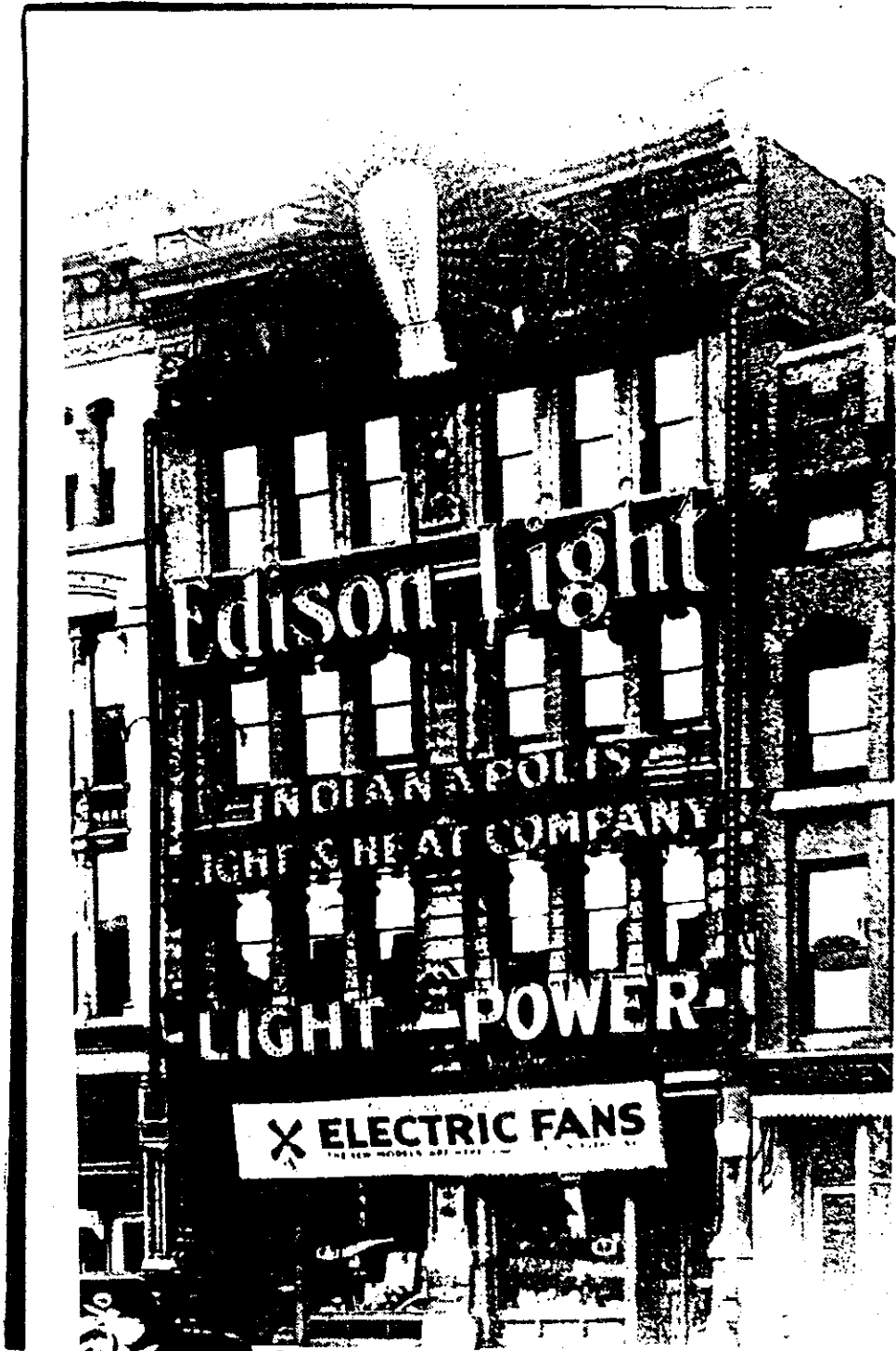
Sulgrove, B. R. History of Indianapolis and Marion County,
Indiana. Philadelphia: L.H. Everts and Company, 1884.

D. Supplemental Information

1. Journal Building from Hyman's The Journal Handbook of Indianapolis, 1902.



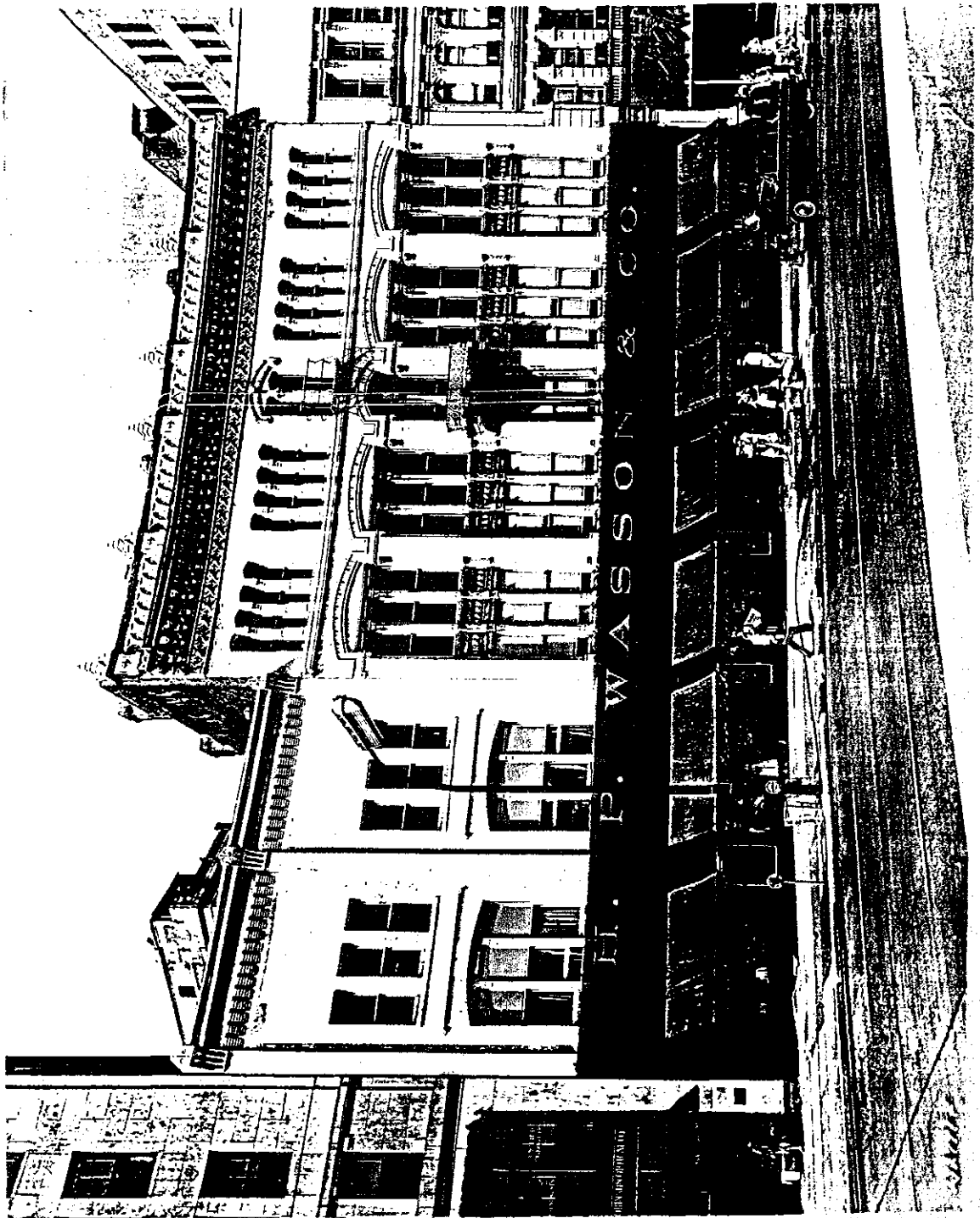
2. Journal Building as office and store of Indianapolis Light & Heat Company, July 1922 from John G. Longsdorf's Electrifying Indianapolis, 1960.



3. Monument Circle, Bass Photo #279246F, March 10, 1951, Journal Building right of center. Indiana Historical Society Library.



4. Journal Building on right, Bass Photo #292771F, June 7, 1956. Indiana Historical Society Library.



PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This project was undertaken by the Indianapolis Historic
Commission (IHPC) in compliance with Executive Order
Memorandum of Agreement with the Advisory Council on
Preservation as a mitigative effort before demolition.

Prepared by William L. Selm, Historian
Indianapolis Historic Preservation Commission
July 1989